

REMARKS

Claims 11, 15, 16 and 20-24 are allowed.

By this Amendment, claim 11 is amended to correct a clerical error. The correction is supported in the specification at, for example, col. 2 of Table 1 on page 19 of the specification.

Applicants thank Examiner Clemente for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative, Mr. Luo, during the August 11, 2008 telephone interview. As agreed to during the interview, this correction is proper and should be entered.

In particular, the phrase "an average particle diameter of 25 to 250 μm " should have been "an average particle diameter of 15 to 250 μm ." Such a correction is needed to be consistent with the same phrase recited in claim 16.

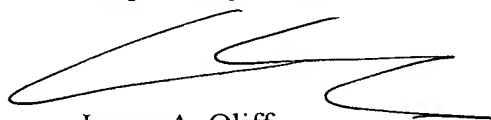
The phrase "an average particle diameter of 15 to 250 μm " was intended in the April 11, 2008 Amendment, as evidenced in the Remarks of the April 11, 2008 Amendment. In particular, the last paragraph of page 7 of the April 11, 2008 Amendment states "In particular, claim 11 is amended to recite 'a foamed resin having an average particle diameter of 15 to 250 μm and being contained in 25 to 65 volume percents.' Claim 16 is amended to recite similar features." Thus, claim 11 was intended to be amended in the April 11, 2008 Amendment to recite "an average particle diameter of 15 to 250 μm " to be consistent with the same phrase recited in claim 16.

Further, the correction from "an average particle diameter of 25 to 250 μm " to "an average particle diameter of 15 to 250 μm " in claim 11 does not affect the patentability of claim 11. As indicated in the March 28, 2008 Interview Summary, it is the "25 to 65 volume percents" feature recited in claims 11 and 16 that renders claims 11 and 16 patentable. As discussed above, claim 11 was intended to recite "an average particle diameter of 15 to 250 μm ." Thus, entry of the correction of claim 11 is respectfully requested under Rule 312.

Entry of this correction is needed for proper disclosure and protection of the invention. No substantial amount of additional work is required on the part of the Office, because, as indicated above, the correction does not affect patentability. Accordingly, entry of the correction is proper.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application remains in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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